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PATENT APPLICATIONS
OFFICE OF PETITIONS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
: Examiner: J. Phan
KEIICHIRO ISHIHARA)
: Group Art Unit: 2872
Appln. No.: 09/696,000)
: Filed: October 26, 2000)
: For: OPTICAL SCANNING)
: APPARATUS, MULTI-BEAM)
: OPTICAL SCANNING)
: APPARATUS, AND)
: IMAGE-FORMING APPARATUS) January 12, 2004

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Attn: Office of Publications

LETTER RETURNING IMPROPERLY ISSUED LETTERS PATENT

Sir:

Applicant received Letters Patent No. US 6,671,076 B1 referencing the above-noted application number. However, prior to issuance of the patent, Applicant filed a Petition to Withdraw Application from issue under 37 CFR 1.313(c)(2) on December 29, 2003, and that Petition was granted on the same day, before the December 30, 2003, issue date of the patent. A copy of the Decision on Petition is attached. Accordingly, because

the application has been withdrawn from issue, Applicant is returning the Letters Patent document herewith.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Justin J. Oliver", is written over a horizontal line.

Attorney for Applicant
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